

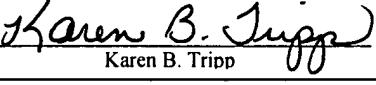
IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:) Examiner: To be Assigned
Carl Joseph Thaemlitz) Art Unit: To be Assigned
Serial No.: To be Assigned)
Filed: October 9, 2003)
For: Electrically Conductive)
Oil-Based Mud)

Mail Stop Patent Applications
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

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Karen B. Tripp

Karen B. Tripp

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Dear Sir:

Please amend the application as indicated below. The Commissioner is authorized to charge all fees due (except the issue fee) for this application to my credit card (credit card charge form attached), and if such charge cannot be completed, then to my deposit account, 50-0807.